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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Zhao, et al.		
Serial No.:	09/469,485	Case No.:	20369Y
Filed:	December 22, 1999		
For:	IMPROVED RECOMBINANT HEPATITIS B SURFACE ANTIGEN		

Art Unit:
1648

Examiner:
Foley, Shanon A.

Don't refer.
SF
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The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
Attention: Board of Patent Appeals And Interferences

APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 CFR 1.193

Sir:

Appellant requests consideration of enclosed Reply Brief in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed June 16, 2004, Confirmation No. 5022. The Reply Brief is being filed in triplicate.

If any time extensions are needed for the timely filing of the Appellant's Reply Brief, Appellant petitions for such extensions and authorizes the charging of Deposit Account 13-2755 for the appropriate fees.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By Kathleen King Date 8/16/04

Date: 16 August 2004

By [Signature]
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Foley, S. A.

OFFICIAL

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 2, 2002. No Extension of Time is believed to be necessary for the filing of this response. However, Applicant Petitions for any Extension of Time found to be necessary for the filing of this response. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 13-2755 for the Petition fee and any other fee(s) required to effect this Petition.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING TRANSMITTED
BY FACSIMILE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
WASHINGTON, DC 20231, ON THE DATE APPEARING BELOW.

MERCK & CO., INC.

BY: [Signature]

DATE: 10/2/02

M. Yablonsky
40,407